

On The Go

September 2009

Volume 1, Issue 2

Commission Officers Named

On Friday, August 28, 2009 the Commission of Latino Affairs held its first commission meeting, where Sandra Sanchez-Naert of Granger, Iowa, was named Chair.

Sandra Sanchez is a Mexico native and works as the American Friends Service Committee Immigrants Voice Program director, serving immigrants in Central Iowa. She is an accredited Board of Immigration Appeals representative and a qualified interpreter. Her work has been recognized by the Friends of Iowa Civil Rights and the YWCA among others.

The Commission also named Sal Alaniz of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, as Vice Chair and Paula A. Martinez of Carlisle, Iowa, as Secretary. To read the full press release, click [here](#).



Photos Clockwise:
Chair Sandra Sanchez-Naert, Vice Chair Sal Alaniz and Secretary Paula Martinez

Let Us Hear From You

The Division of Latino Affairs will be having a booth at the Latino Heritage Festival on September 19th -20th.

We **need your help** in order to keep our booth active throughout the festival. We are looking for volunteers for two-hour segments. Those volunteering will receive free admission. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact carolina.manjarrez@iowa.gov.

Shift times are provided below.

Sat Sept 19th

10am to 12noon
12 noon – 2 pm:
2 pm – 4 pm:
4 pm – 6 pm:
6 pm – 8pm

Sunday Sept 20th

10 am – 12 noon:
12 noon – 2 pm:
2 pm – 4 pm:
4 pm – 6 pm:

Admission

Adults: \$5.00
Children: 3yr to 12yr - \$1.00

Location

Blank Park Zoo
Des Moines

Parking:

\$3.00 per car
(Benefits the Optimist International Club)



Upcoming Events:

- [HOLA Legal Clinic](#)
September 14, 2009 5:30 - 7:30p.m.
- [Latinos Unidos of Iowa Scholarship Fundraiser Dinner](#)
September 12, 2009 5:30 - 8:00p.m.
- [Diverse Discrimination Workshop](#)
Sept. 14, 2009 - 2:30–4:30p.m.
- [Discrimination Workshop for Latino and Immigrant Workers](#)
September 16, 2009 2:00 - 4:00p.m. in Council Bluffs
- [Latino Heritage Festival](#)
September 19 - 20, 2009
- [Greater Des Moines Partnership's Multicultural Reception](#)
Sept. 24, 2009 4:30–7:30p.m.
- [USHLI Midwest Student Leadership Conference](#)
Sept. 25-26, 2009 in Chicago, IL
- [Iowa Latino Conference](#)
Oct. 9, 2009—Grand View University
- [Iowa Youth Congress](#)
Annual Session November 13 - 14, 2009
- [Different Colors of Violence Youth Conference](#)
Dec. 10-11, 2009—Grand View University

Educate Yourself:

- [Latinos in Iowa: 2009](#)
- [Can a Mother Lose Her Child Because She Doesn't Speak English](#)
- [New Report: Latinos Have Highest Fatality Rate](#)

Iowa Youth Congress

Since 2006, the Iowa Youth Congress has sought to prepare minority high school students to be future civic leaders. The Iowa high schools with the highest minority populations are invited to participate. Each high school is assigned a number of representatives (this year varying from one to six), based on their minority population. This year, 48 target schools have been identified as potential participants, based on their minority populations. Several new schools have qualified to participate for the first time this year, including some smaller communities. A few examples are: Burlington, Linn-Mar, Clinton, Mason City, Fort Madison and Lewis Central.

The 100 student representatives elected yearly convene in the House Chambers, where they hold elections and then propose, debate and pass three bills. Then the bills are actually proposed to state lawmakers. The 2009 Iowa Youth Congress will be November 13-14, 2009, in Des Moines.

Many former members now attend top universities. Students say the experience has “opened their eyes tremendously” and “made an impact” on their lives. They credit the Youth Congress with revealing possibilities, and for providing a practical way to directly experience the concepts of representative government, democratic values and civic participation. For more information, please contact Heather.Stanley@iowa.gov.



An Evening with Dolores Huerta

-- A Latina Perspective on
Civil-Marriage Equality --

Monday, September 14 -- 7:00 p.m.



Trinity United Methodist Church
1548 8th Street, Des Moines

Dolores Huerta is President of the Dolores Huerta Foundation. Her mission includes developing community leaders who advocate for the working poor, women and children. She travels daily, speaking at universities and organizational forums on issues of social justice and public policy. In 1962, she co-founded the National Farm Workers Association with Cesar Chavez, which would later become the Unit's Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee.

The event is free and open to the public. Dolores will present her speech in Spanish and English. It is sponsored by Latinos Unidos of Iowa; Alianza; Iowa Civil Liberties Union; Interfaith Alliance of Iowa; One Iowa; Equality Iowa; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (State Council of Iowa-PFLAG); Progressive Coalition of Central Iowa (PCCI); Des Moines Human Rights Commission; The Roundtable; American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME); the Des Moines Catholic Worker; and the Iowa Division of Latino Affairs.

For flyer in Spanish, please click [here](#).

Census 2010: Everyone counts! It's in our hands to make a difference!

The **Division of Latino Affairs** would like to encourage our Latino community to participate in the 2010 Census. The census takes place every ten years.



The importance of Census 2010:

The census data affects the funding \$\$\$ our community receives.

Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood. Improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That's more than \$4 trillion over a 10-year period. Help us get our fair share by participating in the 2010 Census.

Census data voice the need of our community in Congress. The census helps apportion our state with the fair number of seats in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The number of people counted affects representation at the local and state levels. The census numbers define legislature districts, school district assignment areas among other important functional areas of government.

Census 2010 data direct community decisions. The census data helps inform our community where it needs to build roads, hospitals, schools, day care centers, etc.

Census 2010 is 100% confidential! Please participate!
Become part of our Complete Count Committees.

Help count our community in Census 2010 by joining our Complete Count Committee.

Contact carolina.manjarrez@iowa.gov.

"Head Start's ability to improve the educational skills and opportunities of Latino children will be an important component of America's future success."

— Joe Baca

New Research Explores The Sometimes Rough Road To Adulthood

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 27, 2009

Low-income African American youth engage in fewer risky behaviors than low-income white youth, a new Urban Institute analysis of federal data reveals. And, a companion analysis shows second-generation Latinos make a more successful transition into the labor market than black and third-generation Latino youth.

Between ages 18 and 24, 56 percent of second-generation Latinos are consistently connected to school or jobs. That's higher than for third-generation Latinos (44 percent) and blacks (42 percent) but lower than for whites (65 percent). Yet, second-generation Latinos are as likely to hold regular jobs or to be in school as white youth with similar personal, family, and neighborhood characteristics.



To read the full press release, click [here](#).

"The day someone quits school he is condemning himself to a future of poverty."

— Jaime Escalante, Educator

Iowa Division of Latino Affairs
Lucas State Building
321 E 12th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319

Iowa Division of Latino Affairs: On the Go newsletter will be sent monthly with up-to-date information on the agency, activities and upcoming events to keep our constituents informed. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

The Division of Latino Affairs is legislatively mandated to promote and advocate for Iowa Latinos.

Long-Term Facility Directory

By: Olivia Orozco

Recently the Division of Latino Affairs has received calls in regards to people looking for a long-term facility such as a nursing home, assisted living, or independent living, for their loved one. The most important issue is finding a long-term facility that could communicate with those loved ones that have not quite mastered the English language. As an Intern with a background in Child, Adult, and Family Services at Iowa State, as well as a strong interest in working with older adults, I worked with Melissa to create a survey that will become a directory of long-term facilities in Iowa.

This directory would show whether or not the facility has bilingual staff, the services provided, location and contact information. Over this past month, I have been working on this survey for all 443 of the nursing homes in Iowa. Contact has been made with about 200 nursing homes by e-mail or by telephone. Further contact will be made throughout the month of September.

Iowa Department of Public Health: *Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Information*

Weekly Surveillance for September 4, 2009

Iowa Cases

Iowa Hospitalizations for influenza-like-illness: 1

Iowa Deaths: 0 (1 total)

National Cases

Hospitalized Cases: 9,079 total National Deaths: 593 total

The weekly influenza surveillance report is posted on the IDPH Web site at: www.idph.state.ia.us/h1n1/.

The Iowa Influenza Surveillance Network (IISN) incorporates reporting from the following:

- Hospitals
- Sentinel Health Care Providers
- Laboratory surveillance.

USCIS Updates Form I-9 to Reflect New Expiration Date

Date: 9/3/2009

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has issued a new version of the form I-9, bearing a revision date of August 7, 2009. The new form will remain valid until August 31, 2012. The current version of the I-9 form can be downloaded from [USCIS.gov](http://uscis.gov).

Because no substantive changes were introduced with the new revision, employers are permitted to continue using the prior form I-9 with a revision date of February 2, 2009. The February 2, 2009 version of the form is likely to ultimately be retired, however, so employers are advised to begin using the August 7, 2009 revision as soon as possible.

Teen Career Mag Launches Spanish Edition

Beginning October 2009, *Go!* magazine will publish each issue in Spanish. *Go!* is a free, online teen magazine exploring careers in the transportation industry.

"Spanish speakers are one of the largest growing populations in Iowa. It just makes sense to reach out to Latino teens in the language they're most comfortable with," says Rebekah Bovenmyer, *Go!* editor.

What's in *Go!*?

Go! is filled with lively, interactive articles, activities, games, and contests. Recent articles have covered

- What humans can learn from ant "traffic control"
- How sailors navigate on the high seas
- What it's like to sit behind the wheel of a Union Pacific freight train
- How cities plan for humongous crowds and crazy traffic at the Olympics
- How distributors got the last Harry Potter book to stores just in time for its release date

Subscribe to the Spanish edition

Anyone can read *Go!* at any time. But be in the know with *Go!* and become a subscriber. Subscribers receive either an email or a postcard when each new issue is published (about every six weeks during the school year). In September, teens and adults can subscribe to the Spanish-language version at www.go-explore-trans.org. English-language subscriptions are available now. Both versions of the magazine are free!

Contact us

For more information, visit www.go-explore-trans.org. Or email the editor at editor@go-explore-trans.com.